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ABSTRACT

To determine employment outcomes for graduates of the 1993-93 academic year, the Virginia Community College System (VCCS) undertook a study of outcomes by examining state unemployment insurance wage records. The analysis determined that for all 23 colleges in the system, 63.6% of graduates were employed by a Virginia business or industry at the end of 1993. Other findings included the following: (1) 43.8% of VCCS graduates were employed in service industries, 20.7% in retail trade, 12.6% in manufacturing, 6.4% in public administration, and 5.2% in finance, insurance, and real estate; (2) colleges with the highest percentages of employed graduates were Blue Ridge at 77.66%, J. Sargeant Reynolds at 74.71% Central Virginia at 74.68%, and Wytheville at 73.42%; (3) colleges with the lowest percentages of employed graduates were Mountain Empire at 54.37%, Northern Virginia at 53.74%, and Eastern Shore at 52.94%; (4) a further analysis of employees by type of employer revealed that 19.4% of the graduates employed in the service industries were employed in health services, the largest percentage; (5) VCCS program clusters employing the largest number of graduates were business at 1,513, public service at 1,427, and health at 1,215; and (6) the highest median salaries went to graduates from the health ($26,948), engineering and industrial ($23,396), and public services ($19,792) divisions. (KP)

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VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

# Research Report Series

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## Virginia Employers of 1992-1993 VCCS Graduates

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# Virginia Employers of 1992-93 VCCS Graduates

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## Virginia Employers of 1992-93 VCCS Graduates

Employment outcomes of graduates were determined using unemployment insurance(UI) wage records* as the source of follow-up information. More than 95% of Virginia's workers are included in these files. For the VCCS, nearly two of every three graduates were employed by a Virginia business or industry** at the end of 1993. Numbers of students employed in each of the Standard Industrial Classification(SIC) divisions of economic activities are presented in Table I. Table II shows for each college the number of graduates working in Virginia.

More than three-fourths of all graduates were employed in the divisions of manufacturing, retail trades, or services. A further breakdown of these and other divisions into SIC major groups(Table III) shows that far more graduates are employed by health services establishments than any other major group of employers. Business services, education services, and public administration are closely grouped in second position.

The last table groups graduates found to be working in Virginia by the program area or degree cluster in which the award was earned. For each cluster, the number who graduated, number employed, and, for those employed, average and range of annual earnings*** are presented. Average earnings are higher for graduates of Engineering and Industrial and Health Technology programs. As is the case nationally(AACC Survey,1994), health graduates earn the highest average salaries.

College-specific data are available in SAS data sets or in a format suitable for spreadsheets. Data elements available include the graduate's curriculum, age, race, sex, and residence along with total quarterly earnings and employer's SIC code. Requests should be made in writing to Earl McHewitt, Academic Services and Research.

* An agreement executed between the Virginia Employment Commission and the VCCS permits the use of information from these files for program follow-up and evaluation within the VCCS.

** Major categories of employees excluded from these files include military personnel, federal civilian employees, self-employed and independent contractors, and workers for small agricultural and fisheries establishments.

*** Average salary data are based only on those graduates earning the quarterly minimum wage or higher, i.e. regular employees.

**TABLE I**

**1992-93 VCCS GRADUATES**

**VIRGINIA EMPLOYING INDUSTRIES BY SIC DIVISION**

| SIC DIVISION | NUMBER | PERCENT |
|---|---|---|
| Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing | 76 | 1.1 |
| Mining | 14 | 0.2 |
| Construction | 218 | 3.1 |
| Manufacturing | 882 | 12.6 |
| Transportation, Communications, Electric, Gas, and Sanitary Services | 233 | 3.3 |
| Wholesale Trade | 238 | 3.4 |
| Retail Trade | 1,451 | 20.7 |
| Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate | 366 | 5.2 |
| Services | 3,074 | 43.8 |
| Public Administration | 449 | 6.4 |
| Nonclassifiable Establishments | 10 | 0.1 |
| Total | 7,011 | |

## TABLE II

## 1992-93 VCCS GRADUATES*

## VIRGINIA UI EMPLOYMENT, FOURTH QUARTER 1993

| COLLEGE | EMPLOYED | GRADUATES | PERCENT |
|---|---|---|---|
| Blue Ridge | 226 | 291 | 77.66 |
| Central Virginia | 295 | 395 | 74.68 |
| Dabney S. Lancaster | 129 | 189 | 68.25 |
| Danville | 307 | 480 | 63.96 |
| Eastern Shore | 36 | 68 | 52.94 |
| Germanna | 145 | 244 | 59.43 |
| J. Sargeant Reynolds | 511 | 684 | 74.71 |
| John Tyler | 237 | 337 | 70.33 |
| Lord Fairfax | 175 | 262 | 66.79 |
| Mountain Empire | 143 | 263 | 54.37 |
| New River | 298 | 396 | 75.25 |
| Northern Virginia | 1,329 | 2,473 | 53.74 |
| Patrick Henry | 225 | 307 | 73.29 |
| Paul D. Camp | 123 | 174 | 70.69 |
| Piedmont Virginia | 167 | 232 | 71.98 |
| Rappahannock | 181 | 253 | 71.54 |
| Southside Virginia | 197 | 285 | 69.12 |
| Southwest Virginia | 256 | 428 | 59.81 |
| Thomas Nelson | 414 | 638 | 64.89 |
| Tidewater | 848 | 1,517 | 55.90 |
| Virginia Highlands | 173 | 286 | 60.49 |
| Virginia Western | 375 | 522 | 71.84 |
| Wytheville | 221 | 301 | 73.42 |
| Totals | 7,011 | 11,025 | 63.59 |

*Includes Career Studies Certificates

## TABLE III

## 1992-93 VCCS Graduates

## VIRGINIA EMPLOYING INDUSTRIES BY SIC MAJOR GROUP

| | Number | Percent | | Number | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agric - Crops | 5 | 0.1 | Retail - Hdwe/Bldg | 58 | 0.8 |
| Agric - Livestock | 6 | 0.1 | Retail - Gen Merch | 253 | 3.6 |
| Agric - Services | 63 | 0.9 | Retail - Food | 264 | 3.8 |
| Forestry | 2 | 0.0 | Retail - Auto/Gas | 134 | 1.9 |
| Coal Mining | 11 | 0.2 | Retail - Apparel | 95 | 1.4 |
| Oil and Gas | 1 | 0.0 | Retail - Home Furn | 87 | 1.2 |
| Nonmetal Mining | 2 | 0.0 | Retail - Eat/Drink | 355 | 5.1 |
| Construc - Bldg | 48 | 0.7 | Retail - Misc | 205 | 2.9 |
| Construc - Heavy | 51 | 0.7 | Finance - Deposit | 191 | 2.7 |
| Construc - Trade | 119 | 1.7 | Finance - Nondepos | 24 | 0.3 |
| MFG - Food | 39 | 0.6 | Finance - Securiti | 3 | 0.0 |
| MFG - Tobacco | 8 | 0.1 | Finance - Insur Co | 46 | 0.7 |
| MFG - Textile | 94 | 1.3 | Finance - Ins Srvs | 27 | 0.4 |
| MFG - Apparel | 25 | 0.4 | Finance - Real Est | 67 | 1.0 |
| MFG - Lumber/Wood | 34 | 0.5 | Finance - Holding | 8 | 0.1 |
| MFG - Furniture | 34 | 0.5 | Service - Lodging | 79 | 1.1 |
| MFG - Paper | 84 | 1.2 | Service - Personal | 49 | 0.7 |
| MFG - Prnt/Publsh | 78 | 1.1 | Service - Business | 414 | 5.9 |
| MFG - Chemicals | 61 | 0.9 | Service - Auto | 30 | 0.4 |
| MFG - Rubber/Plas | 25 | 0.4 | Service - Repair | 16 | 0.2 |
| MFG - Glass/Concr | 18 | 0.3 | Service - Movies | 27 | 0.4 |
| MFG - Metals | 31 | 0.4 | Service - Amusmnt | 60 | 0.9 |
| MFG - Fab. Metals | 26 | 0.4 | Service - Health | 1357 | 19.4 |
| MFG - Mach/Comput | 91 | 1.3 | Service - Legal | 108 | 1.5 |
| MFG - Elec Ex Com | 92 | 1.3 | Service - Educat | 466 | 6.6 |
| MFG - Tran Equip | 109 | 1.6 | Service - Social | 194 | 2.8 |
| MFG - Instruments | 29 | 0.4 | Service - Mus/Gal | 5 | 0.1 |
| MFG - Misc | 4 | 0.1 | Service - Clubs | 54 | 0.8 |
| Tran - Local Trans | 11 | 0.2 | Service - Engr/Mgt | 196 | 2.8 |
| Tran - Mtr Freight | 45 | 0.6 | Service - Hsehold | 15 | 0.2 |
| Tran - Water | 8 | 0.1 | Service - Misc | 4 | 0.1 |
| Tran - Air | 27 | 0.4 | Public Admin | 449 | 6.4 |
| Tran - Services | 17 | 0.2 | Nonclassifiable | 10 | 0.1 |
| Tran - Communicat | 57 | 0.8 | | | |
| Tran - Elec/Gas | 68 | 1.0 | Total | 7,011 | |
| Wholesale - Durabl | 161 | 2.3 | | | |
| Wholesale - Nondur | 77 | 1.1 | | | |

**TABLE IV**

**1992-93 VCCS GRADUATES**

**EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS BY PROGRAM CLUSTER**

| CLUSTER | GRADUATES | EMPLOYED | MEAN | MEDIAN | 25th CENTILE | 75th CENTILE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| College Transfer | 3,570 | 1,873 | $21,224 | $17,228 | $12,324 | $27,220 |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | 106 | 77 | $22,011 | $19,600 | $14,428 | $25,884 |
| Arts and Design | 156 | 79 | $18,100 | $15,196 | $11,644 | $22,604 |
| Business | 2,208 | 1,513 | $21,313 | $18,168 | $13,324 | $25,976 |
| Engineering and Industrial | 1,209 | 817 | $25,810 | $23,396 | $16,544 | $32,700 |
| Health | 1,635 | 1,215 | $26,914 | $26,948 | $21,116 | $31,564 |
| Public Service | 2,147 | 1,427 | $23,282 | $19,792 | $13,464 | $29,848 |
| Total | 11,025 | 7,011 | $23,453 | $21,112 | $14,396 | $29,892 |